

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 7 and 13 – 19 are in the application. Claims 1, 2, 5 – 7, 13, 14, and 17 – 19 were previously presented; claims 8 – 12 and 20 – 34 have been canceled; and claims 3, 4, 15, and 16 remain unchanged from the original versions thereof. Claims 1 and 13 are the independent claims herein. No amendments are submitted herewith. Accordingly, new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1 – 7 and 13 – 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tatchell et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,999,611. This rejection is traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits claims 1 and 13 each relate to a first telephone and a plurality of other telephones associated with the first telephone, the first telephone capable of managing separate telephone calls simultaneously conducted by the first telephone and the plurality of other telephones associated with the first telephone. Clearly Applicant claims include the first telephone capable of managing separate telephone calls simultaneously conducted by the first telephone and the plurality of other telephones associated with the first telephone.

However, in contrast to claims 1 and 13, the cited and relied upon Tatchell actually discloses a “subscriber interface operating as a Personal Agent” wherein the “Personal Agent enables the subscriber to access and activate telephone network services using voice recognition technology”. (Tatchell, Abstract) Tatchell further explains,

Referring now to FIG. 1, we have shown a block diagram of a telephone switching center 10, which may take the form of an Signalling Point (SP) in the CCS7 network. The telephone switching center is provided with a Personal Agent processor 11 adapted to provide a subscriber with enhanced and integrated communication mobility and call management

services. The Personal Agent when used as the subscriber interface forms an integral part of the subscriber's telephone network in that it can be accessed seamlessly by the subscriber from any one of a predetermined number of locations, such as home, business, mobile telephone, etc. (emphasis added) (Tatchell, col.6, ln. 55 – 65)

and

Preferably, the Personal Agent processor 11 is located at one or more telephone switching centers to enable a Personal Agent interface to be provided to any telephone service subscriber on the network. In some instances, the Personal Agent processor 11 will be co-located with the telephone switching center 10. On the other hand, the Personal Agent processor 11 can also form part of a remote telephone switching center 12 and still provide Personal Agent interface to remotely-located subscribers. The telephone switching center 10 includes a switching network 13, line circuits 14 and trunk circuits 15, which are operative under control of a call controller 16, to provide communication paths between telephone stations 17a-17n and various trunks 18a-18n. Telephone switching centers of this general form and function are well known to persons of typical skill in the art of digital switch telephony. However, for convenience, the operation of the telephone switching center is briefly reviewed. (emphasis added) (Tatchell, col.7, ln. 9 - 26)

Thus, it is clear that the cited and relied upon Tatchell Personal Agent Processor of the telephone network switching center is separate and distinct from any and all of the disclosed telephones. The Personal Agent of FIG. 2b is likewise separate and distinct from the telephones 24, 25, and the Subscriber's Home phone (no reference number provided).

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited and relied upon Tatchell fails to disclose (at least) the claimed aspect(s) of a first telephone and a plurality of other telephones associated with the first telephone, the first telephone capable of managing separate telephone calls simultaneously conducted by the first telephone and the plurality of other telephones associated with the first telephone.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 13 are not anticipated by Tatchell under 35 USC 102(b). Applicant further submits that claims 2 – 7 and 14 – 19 are also patentable over Tatchell for at least depending from a patentable base claim.

Furthermore, Applicant neither admits to, agrees with, nor acquiesces to any statements not specifically addressed in the present Response. While Applicant respectfully submits that the present Response is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action, Applicant reserves the right to argue any other statements of the Office Action.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-5985.

Respectfully submitted,

August 17, 2009

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